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Northwest Territories
Legislative Assembly

Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight

Report on Priorities and Objectives Workshop

Chair: Mr. Charles Dent

105-00512/

Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly

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THE HONOURABLE TONY WHITFORD, M.L.A.
SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Report of the Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight

Your Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight recently conducted a priorities and objectives setting workshop in Yellowknife. I am pleased to present this Report on the outcome of the workshop.

Charles Dent, M.L.A.
Chair

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14th Assembly

Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories

Committee Members

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Mr. Charles Dent
MLA Frame Lake

Mr. Brendan Bell
MLA Yellowknife South

Mr. Bill Braden
MLA Great Slave

Mr. Paul Delorey
MLA Hay River North

Mr. Leon Lafferty
MLA North Slave

Ms. Sandy Lee
MLA Range Lake

Mr. Michael McLeod
MLA Deh Cho

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Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight

Report on Priorities and Objectives Workshop

Introduction

On March 15, 2000 the Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight participated in a priorities and objectives setting workshop. The workshop was a follow-up meeting to the Committee's Operational Planning Workshop held on February 18-19, 2000. The purpose of their workshop was to identify the short, medium and long-term goals that the Committee wishes to pursue during the life of the 14th Legislative Assembly.

Members had many topics of consideration that they felt that should be addressed over the next four years. During the workshop, the Committee was cognizant of the mandates of the Standing Committee on Social Programs and the Standing Committee on Governance and Economic Development and refrained from encroaching on these mandates.

Goals

At the end of the workshop, the Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight had thirteen broad goals. These are only our initial goals and we know that they are not static. The Committee will continuously refine them to meet the changing needs of northerners. Our goals are:

- To achieve progress on constitutional and electoral reform;
- To advocate for the rights of the public and those needing a voice in dealing with government;
- A public service that is representative of the population it serves, and is treated fairly and managed effectively;

- A more effective government organization, structure and operations;
- Survival of the Official Aboriginal languages;
- A cohesive and current Workers' Compensation system and the associated governing authorities to meet the changing environments;
- An energy strategy to address the shifting NWT environment and relevant outside influences;
- A strategy for sharing control of and responsibility for northern resources;
- To maximize the benefits of recreational activities and to foster the positive effect that recreation has on community health and well-being;

Ongoing goals of our Committee that are explicitly included in our mandate include:

- The comprehensive overview of the Government of the Northwest Territories' budget and fiscal framework;
- The consideration of budgets and the financial management of the NWT Workers' Compensation Board, the NWT Power Corporation and other similar government boards and agencies;
- Examination of the Auditor General reports; and
- Coordination of House Business scheduling and planning in cooperation with Cabinet.

Conclusion

There is a great deal of work to be done by the Committee in order to fulfil our goals. We have a full agenda before us and look forward to our future dealings with the Government in achieving these goals.